

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-8 have been rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) and claim 9 has been rejected under 35 USC § 103(a). Claims 1 and 2 have been amended.

The Applicants appreciate the Examiner's thorough examination of the subject application and respectfully request reconsideration of the subject application based on the above amendments and the following remarks.

35 U.S.C. § 102(b) REJECTIONS

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-8 under 35 USC §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent Number 5,511,150 to Beaudet, et al. ("Beaudet" or the "Beaudet Reference"). The Applicants respectfully traverse the grounds for these rejections based on the above amendments and the following remarks.

The Beaudet reference purportedly provides a system that allows a user to input an interrupt copying and printing job while a current job is printing. According to Baudet, once the current job is finished printing, the data for the interrupt job are provided to the marking means. Thus, the current printing job is performed without interruption and the time shown on the display screen, e.g., in FIG. 4I, reflects the amount of time until the current printing job is completed, which also corresponds to the amount of time until the interrupt job can begin.

In comparison, the present invention is structured and arranged to display the amount of time before a user can input an interrupt copying and printing job. More specifically, the system of the present invention calculates and displays the time, i.e., the point of time, before reception of a new interrupt job is possible. Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to include this feature.

It is respectfully submitted that, claims 1-8 satisfy all of the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 100, et seq., especially § 102(b). Accordingly, claims 1-8 are allowable.

Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is requested.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) REJECTIONS

The Examiner has rejected claim 9 under 35 USC §103(a) as being made obvious by Beaudet in view of U.S. Patent Number 5,327,487 to Brown, et al. ("Brown" or the Brown Reference"). The Applicants respectfully traverse the grounds for this rejection based on the following remarks.

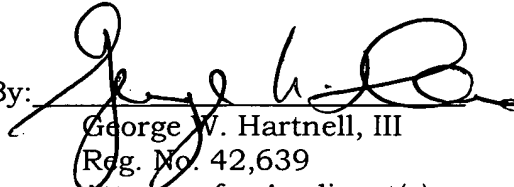
The deficiencies of the Beaudet reference have been described above in our discussion of the § 102(b) rejections. Further, the Brown reference cannot make up for these deficiencies because the Brown reference does not teach, mention or suggest using the current state of printing or the information as to whether an interrupt is permissible to calculate the time at which an interrupt can be made next or the permissible termination time which allows for an interrupt job.

It is respectfully submitted that, claim 9 satisfies all of the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 100, et seq., especially § 103(a). Accordingly, claim 9 is allowable. Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is requested.

If for any reason a fee paid is inadequate or credit is owed for any excess fee paid, you are hereby authorized and requested to charge or credit Deposit Account No. **04-1105**.

Respectfully submitted,

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